GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2855
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2014
CLEARANCE TO STONE MINING
Rajoria Dr. Manoj

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any policy for grant of environment clearance for Stone mining;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of applications pending for lease of stone mining, State-wise including Karauli and Dholpur in Rajasthan; and

(d) the time by which the clearance is likely to be accorded to them?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has notified Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006, as amended from time to time, under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 which deals with the process to grant Environmental Clearance. The projects of mining of minerals as stated in the schedule of the Notification require prior environment clearance. Category 'A' Projects are handled in MoEF&CC and Category 'B' projects are handled by the concerned State Environment Impact Assessment Authorities (SEIAAs). The stone mining projects with lease area less than 50ha are categorized under Category 'B'. Further, within Category 'B', projects with lease area less than 25ha are categorized as 'B2' Category and those with lease area between 25ha to 50ha are categorized as 'B1' category.

(c): As per information provided by the Mines Department of Rajasthan Government,2048 applications are pending for lease of Masonary Stone and 628 applicationsare pending for lease of sand stone in the State of Rajasthan. Out of these, 114 applications for Masonary Stone and 57 applications for sand stone are pending in Karauli District, and 30 applications for Masonary Stone and 313 applications for sand stone are pending in Dholpur District.

(d): The EIA Notification 2006, as amended, also inter-alia prescribes the time-lines for various stages involved in environment clearance process. No project proposal for stone mining from Rajasthan State is pending in this Ministry for environment clearance.